Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

FIRST ENGROSSMENT

ENGROSSED HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3015

Introduced by

Representatives Satrom, Schauer, Vetter

1 A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Management to consider studying best

2 practices to reduce offender recidivism, increase educational opportunities, prepare

3 incarcerated offenders to rejoin their communities, establish and implement a community

4 transitional housing program, including independent host homes, and encourage communities

5 to reintegrate previously incarcerated individuals into society.

6 WHEREAS, the state releases approximately 1,400 inmates annually; and

7 WHEREAS, previously incarcerated individuals often face numerous barriers upon

- 8 reintegration into society, including lack of adequate housing, transportation, support systems,
- 9 training, and employment opportunities; and

10 WHEREAS, previously incarcerated individuals may benefit from resources and assistance

11 upon reintegration into society, including vocational training, substance abuse treatment,

- 12 short-term housing, and remedial education; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the state has over 14,000 job openings; and
- 14 **WHEREAS**, the employment gap in our communities may be positively impacted through
- 15 the successful re-entry of previously incarcerated individuals into the workforce; and

16 WHEREAS, our communities should be encouraged to assist and support previously

17 incarcerated individuals reintegrating into society in an effort to reduce recidivism and

18 encourage lawful employment;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF

20 NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Legislative Management consider studying best practices to reduce offender recidivism, increase educational opportunities, prepare incarcerated offenders to rejoin their communities, establish and implement a community transitional housing program, including independent host homes, and encourage communities to reintegrate previously incarcerated individuals into society; and Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly

- 1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in conducting the study, the Legislative Management
- 2 may seek technical assistance, as appropriate, from the Council of State Governments' Justice
- 3 Center; and
- 4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Legislative Management report its findings and
- 5 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
- 6 the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly.